

THE SYNDICALIST

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WHOLE No. 51

The Passing Show

SYNDICALISM VERSUS I. W. W.-ISM.

In a recent issue of the Industrial Worker (January 9) there appeared an editorial entitled, "Industrialism Is Not Syndicalism," that contains a fund of unproved assertions and misstatements of fact, combined with misleading allusions.

Hitherto the I. W. W. had taken to itself all the benefits of the advertising accorded to Syndicalism, by covertly aiding and encouraging the popular belief that it was the American representative of Syndicalism. But the growth of the Syndicalist League and the reported statements of the fundamental difference between the I. W. W. and Syndicalism that has appeared in this paper, have forced an open confession from the Worker.

But the Worker has not been satisfied to state the difference and let it go at that. It attempts to discredit Syndicalism and show that it is a back number, without the fairness to give a definition of what it stands for. On the contrary, by covert journalistic tricks it leads the reader to infer that Syndicalism is reactionary. For instance, it says:

"The craft union has fulfilled its mission—if it ever had one—and must disappear. Those who try to perpetuate it are today the deepest reactionaries, even though they may call themselves Socialists, Anarchists or Syndicalists."

Not given a definition of Syndicalism, the inference is inescapable that it upholds craft unionism. The Worker must know Industrialism is one of the good things the I. W. W. borrowed from Syndicalism. If it does not know, then it should not presume to write about that of which it is ignorant. I quote again:

"Those who hold that craft unions will develop into industrial unions are ignorant of history."

SOME ANALOGIES.

Then it wanders all over the ages picking up "analogies" to bolster up its assertion. It tells us that Luther started a new church, that the Socialists started a new party, the A. F. of L. a new union, and the steel trust "a new organization." Then to clinch its argument proper, and to prove that the Syndicalists are a bunch of John Henry Dubbses, fit subjects for the comic section of the Worker, it says:

"The Syndicalists themselves give the lie to their own teachings by withdrawing from the I. W. W. rather than to attempt to change it to conform to their pet theories."

If you are totally ignorant of the history quoted, and of the movements of the Syndicalists, and don't stop to think as you read these "analogies" and the passage quoted, the "argument" will get you—perhaps. For myself, I would be afraid to trust you with such "evidence" in support of my assertions. But the Worker is evidently more reckless than I am.

Let me dwell on these "analogies" for a moment, not especially to prove anything, but to show you just how reckless the Worker is. Take the Socialists for a starter. They

started a new party because there was nothing else they could do. THERE WAS NO WORKERS' PARTY FOR THEM TO "BORE" IN. Is that enough for you? Very well, we will pass on to the A. F. of L. The Worker says it "did not try to force its ideas upon the existing unions."

The statement is misleading and unfair, because it gives an impression a statement of the facts would not warrant.

The A. F. of L. was started as a federation of international and national unions joined together for mutual protection. Where is the analogy between that and Tom Jones, the machinist, going into the Machinists' Union to propagate for the general strike? You fail to see it? So do I. But wait a minute. While we are here let us go a little further into the history of the A. F. of L., ignorance of which the Worker so boldly charges us, and see what else we can dig up.

THE KNIGHTS OF LABOR.

The Knights of Labor was the "one big union" of those days. It was built on the same general plan as the I. W. W. The executive authority was centralized in the heads of a few men. There was no craft or local autonomy. The idea was that unity of action demanded a central authority. While the organization was small and enthusiasm big there was no difficulty. But when the organization got big the red tape grew longer and unwound slowly. As a consequence discontent began to do its deadly work. It began to "bore," and it called itself "Federation."

The Federationists bored hard and puriously in the K. of L. and carried one craft after another into the A. F. of L., where the red tape was absent, until the powerful industrial union, that had a million members in 1886, was reduced to nothing.

Thus it will be seen that where history touches our case, it not only sanctions our boring idea, but it goes even further and justifies our "Federation of Industries" plan, as against the "one big union." But suppose history was dead against us, what would the Worker's analogies amount to? Its argument is simply this:

"You fellows are ignorant of history. See Luther standing back there! He's got no auger in his hand, he has a hammer and saw. What! establish a new precedent! Blasphemy! As Luther did, so shall it be done forever after."

Such is the logic of the Worker.

ABUSE DON'T PAY.

To those who might say the Federationists' boring was different from that of the Syndicalists, I would answer: Only in detail; the principle is the same. If you have an idea above the common level, stick till you raise the common level up to it. Don't run off by yourself, like a kid, and bawl. The man who works beside you, who sits beside you in the union, he's the man you must convince, and you can't do that by running away from him. There is one of the two main points of difference be-

tween the I. W. W. and the Syndicalist League of North America.

The two and a half million organized workers in this country are not going to be convinced of the splendors of Industrialism by vituperation and lying abuse. We may as well make up our minds to that first as last. They must be approached as man to man, with the kind word and the glad hand of fellowship. "Fellow-workers," not "scabs," must be our greeting to them. If we have a message of freedom for them we must carry it to them. That is our work as propagandists.

We have no quarrel with the I. W. W., except that we won't stand for misrepresentation. We demand a square deal. We stand for the truth even though it consumes us, and we will struggle with our friends for it as readily as with our enemies.

Some Syndicalists leave the I. W. W. to go where their propaganda is more badly needed. If that is "giving the lie to their own teachings," then the lie will continue.

Returning to the Worker's history teach paragraph, I would like to ask it if that bit of recent French history, wherein it is recorded that a handful of revolutionists bored their way into the small and sickly labor movement of that country and developed it into a fighting body of 600,000 members, ready to go the limit at the drop of the hat, has not more bearing on the question at issue than the exploits of Martin Luther?

Syndicalism is Industrialism, Federated Industrialism. It stands for the ultra-revolutionary and scientific doctrine of decentralization. It holds that the real solidarity of a free proletariat depends more on the man at the bottom than the man at the top; more on the individual than on the local union; more on the local union than on the central council; more on the central council than on the industrial union; more on the industrial union than on the federation of industrial unions.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF DESPAIR.

So much gush is being uttered against "direct action" nowadays that one is delighted to hear something really great said about it. Job Harriman, the high mogul of the stand-pat Social Democrats of California, flung a fine bouquet at it recently. "Direct action," said he, "is the philosophy of despair." Then he rested, while the hats went high in the air, I wish I had been there to add my new cap to the fling-up. I wouldn't have cared if it never came down. For Job gave vent to a mighty truth. "Direct action" is indeed the philosophy of despair. It is the philosophy of those who despair of achieving their emancipation by electing jawsmiths to office.

JAY FOX.

A BOX CAR LULLABY.

A monster 50-ft. furniture car drifted into the C. & N. W. yards at Chicago bearing the following inscription:

"Hush, my little box car,
Don't you cry;
You will be a freight house
By and by."

THE SYNDICALIST

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Workers of the world, unite! You have nothing
to lose—and you might get something.

B. CAPES.

SYNDICALISM IN ENGLAND.

Two important conferences were held recently in
England under the auspices of the Industrial Syn-
dicalist Education League. About 150,000 workers
were represented at these two meetings.

At the London conference, 58 unions were repre-
sented by 98 delegates. Guy Bowman, who acted as
chairman, struck the keynote of the conference
when he said: "One Industry, One Union, One
Card, One Policy, and that a Fighting One."

A remarkable feature of the conference was its
opposition to the "one big union" idea. The dele-
gates feared it would develop into an autocracy that
would crush the workers down, instead of freeing
them.

It was held that federation would insure indus-
trial autonomy and give freer play to individual ini-
tiative. The important present work was the amal-
gamation of the unions in the different industries,
and the way to bring this about was to carry the
propaganda of Syndicalist education into the unions.
The amalgamation committees of the different in-
dustries would pursue this work vigorously, while
conferring with each other frequently, and finally,
when the workers adopted amalgamation in the sev-
eral industries, these committees would form the
National Federation of Industrial Unions.

The conferences were almost unanimous on all
resolutions passed. They follow in the order passed.

Solidarity.

"Whereas the only way by which the workers can
emancipate themselves is by the most complete
solidarity:

"The conference calls upon all workers to join
the unions of their respective trades;

"Urges upon those already organized the vital
necessity of causing all the trade unions, in any one
industry, to amalgamate, and

"Recommends trade unionists to organize amal-
gamation committees for all industries."

Propaganda.

"This conference urges all organized bodies of
workers to affiliate to the trades council of their
district, or to take immediate steps to form trades
councils where none are existent.

"Whereas the trade councils ought to be the real
centers of trade unionist propaganda, and be used
for building up the trade union movement as a
movement of wage-workers, outside and independ-
ent of the control of any political school or religious
sect."

Amalgamation.

"Whereas it is necessary that the amalgamation
committees should consult one another for com-
mon action, co-ordination, and propaganda, this
conference urges upon all amalgamation committees
already formed, and to be formed, the necessity
to federate, thereby forming the nucleus of a Na-
tional Federation of all industries."

Federation.

"Whereas it is urgent that the trades council
should take up their proper functions as educational
and propagandist bodies for the working class;

"Whereas it is desirable that they should prepare
themselves for the functions they will have to ful-
fill in future society as the center of social and
economic life;

"Whereas they should make themselves effective
for collating and disseminating information in other
localities;

"This conference urges upon all trade unionists
the necessity of bringing about a National Federa-
tion of Trades' Councils."

Confederation.

"Whereas to obtain the most complete solidarity,
the maximum results in propaganda, agitation and
our daily warfare.

"This conference urges the formation of a joint
committee of

"(a) The National Federation of Trades Councils.

"(b) The National Federation of Industrial
Unions;

thereby forming a general confederation of labor.

"The duty of such confederal committee to be
the systematic work of general propaganda; the
organizing of national campaigns for the reduction
of working hours; the raising of the workers' stand-
ard of living; a general education in working-class
economies; a propaganda of direct action in all its
forms; and the preparing of the workers for their
final emancipation from wage slavery."

Internationalism.

"Whereas cases of international importance are
getting every day more numerous, the work of the
trade unionists of all countries should be co-ordin-
ated, and an international policy decided upon;

"Whereas war is the greatest calamity that could
befall the international working-class movement, it
is most urgent that common action should be de-
cided upon by the workers of all countries;

"This conference calls upon the I. S. E. L. to con-
vene an International Syndicalist Congress to be
held in London as soon as possible."

Syndicalist Conference in Manchester.

The Manchester conference was composed of 137
delegates from 76 locals of 42 trade unions, 10
trades councils and 3 amalgamation committees.

After endorsing the London resolutions it passed
the following additional ones:

Direct Action.

"Whereas the General Confederation of Labor,
as previously outlined, can only become an effective
fighting machine and ultimately the structure of an
industrial commonwealth, by the direct activity of
the members composing it;

"Whereas direct action means the pressure of
the workers' power upon the employers without the
aid of the intermediaries of any description; this
conference declares for direct action."

Regulation of Working Hours.

"Whereas mental and physical relaxation are nec-
essary for the workers' normal development:

"Whereas it is absolutely necessary that the
workers should obtain leisure to educate themselves
in their class interests, thereby preparing them-
selves for the management of industry;

"This conference urges the necessity upon trade
unionists to bring pressure to bear upon their or-
ganizations with a view to the progressive reduc-
tion of working hours."

Methods of Direct Action.

"Whereas the state is always prepared to use its
armed forces in the interest of the capitalists to
coerce the workers into submission whenever they
attempt to better their conditions;

"Whereas the capitalists have even gone so far as
to raise armed forces of their own;

"Whereas the workers, who have no country, have
no interest in any war, except the class war;

"This conference declares the necessity for the
workers to devise means of direct action against
the state as well as against the capitalists—such as
the strike, the irritation strike, the pearl strike,
sabotage, the boycott, and anti-militarism";

The Revolutionary General Strike.

"Whereas the General Confederation of Labor is
to become the basis of a new social system on the
morrow of the general strike;

"This conference calls upon all wage-workers to
prepare for the expropriation of the capitalist class,
thus making the means of production and distribu-

tion the common property of all; this expropriation
to be effected by means of the revolutionary general
strike."

We have in these resolutions a complete outline
of Syndicalist tactics. It will be seen there is no
half-way measures embodied in the program.
Everything is clear-cut and precise. The confer-
ences were a revelation to the English labor move-
ment. They surpassed in attendance, enthusiasm
and unity of purpose, the wildest expectations of
the promoters.

Those parliamentarians who have been sneering
at the Syndicalist movement and dubbing it "A
Mann-Bowman hallucination," have had the sneer
brushed off their faces. So far as the workers are
concerned the death knell of parliamentarianism in
England has been sounded by these meetings.
They show, clearly, the new trend of events in the
British Isles. That the future of the English work-
ers' endeavors will be syndicalistic is positive.

Craft unionism has had a fair show and has
proven inadequate. Politics have failed, miserably,
either as a present palliator or a future hope. The
logic of experience is driving the toilers to Syn-
dicalism.

When will we Americans awake?

EDWIN RENARD.

A STRIKING SUGGESTION.

Tacoma, Wash., Jan. 11, '13.

L. A. McCamot, secretary, Electrical Workers'
Union No. 483, Tacoma.

Dear Sir:—I see by the Labor Advocate that your
union has declared a strike against the Stone-Web-
ster interests.

I doubt if 20 per cent of the Stone-Webster em-
ployes are in your union. That being the case, it
means that 80 per cent of the Stone-Webster em-
ployes are scabbing on you as long as they remain
at work, while you are on strike.

You stand no chance of winning while your fel-
low union man—no matter what contract he may
have—is helping your enemy by remaining on the
job.

Get together—syndicate. Why not form a Stone-
Webster shop federation? Every man employed by
this firm being eligible to membership.

The great strikes recently won in England were
made possible only through Syndicalistic methods.
The success of the building trades in nearly every
large city in the United States is made possible sim-
ply because there is no scabbing on the job. You
have one common enemy—get together and master
the situation. You can do it only by concerted
action.

Yours truly,

S. T. HAMMERSMARK,
706 Pacific Ave., Tacoma, Wash.

A CASE OF SABOTAGE.

The following quotation is from The Liberator,
organ of the striking shopmen of the I. C. and Har-
rigan lines:

"A rush car of cotton destined for Galveston was
included in a fast freight. When three miles out
the crew discovered 7 hot boxes on the car and
further examination disclosed the fact that there
were no brasses on the journals and that the collars
of the journals had worn through the oil boxes,
which contained no packing. As a result the rush
car of cotton has been on the side track now for
over a week."

Now the question arises: Did these railroad work-
ers expect to achieve the social revolution by this
act of sabotage, and if they did, see how hopelessly
they failed. See what a terrible menace this direct
action business is to the real, simon-pure, roaring
red, soft-handed, revolutionary, class-conscious
movement of the Socialist lawyers and lecturers
up to the public pie counter!

THE MACHINE.

The Machine is kept in a little hut not far from
the factory. Each morning it propels itself over to
its proper place in the factory. It is a wonderful
Machine but it is not worth much. There are so
many such Machines in the world.

As the sun peeps over the horizon, the factory
whistles blow and the Machine starts out. Other
gray Machines are going through the early light to
the same place. They are used to make hats. What
would the world do without hats? Indeed, hats
must be made.

One day the scream of the whistle is heard before closing time. The great wheels stop for a moment as something silent and gory is carried out and taken away in a wagon. A Machine is broken. Never mind, there are other Machines to be had at the same price. Toot, whistles! Turn, wheels! What if a few Machines wear out? Hats must be made!—Helen M. Boardman in *The Survey*.

THE SYNDICALIST INTERNATIONAL

At its recent conference in London the Industrial Syndicalist Educational League of England decided to call an international Syndicalist conference to discuss the question of war. This conference is to be held as soon as practicable.

The holding of this conference is most advisable. It should receive the hearty support of Syndicalists the world over. Indeed, such conferences should be held periodically, as there is a pressing need for the Syndicalist movements of the various countries to get in closer touch with each other. At present they are isolated, no bonds existing between them other than those of common ideas. The Syndicalists are barred from the international Socialist congress, as this body recognizes only those organizations endorsing political action. With the exception of the French, they are also excluded from the labor union international—the International Secretariat. This is owing to the fact that this body only admits one organization (always the largest) and two delegates from each country. This arrangement effectively shuts out all the Syndicalist minorities.

The International Secretariat is a creature of the Socialist politicians. They use it as a buffer to protect their International Socialist congress from the Syndicalists. The only reason they allow it to exist is because it prevents a genuine labor union international from being formed. They keep it emasculated in size and functions, so that it can't come into competition with the International Socialist congress, as a live international immediately would.

Owing to the peculiar conditions prevailing in the various countries, it may be inadvisable at this time to start a live labor union international in opposition to the fake International Secretariat, but an international Syndicalist propaganda organization could most profitably be formed. Or, failing in this, at least, there should be international conferences held from time to time. The benefit that would result from these would be immense. There couldn't be the objections to these that there would be to a new international.

It is to be hoped that the proposed London conference does not limit itself to the question of war. There are numerous other questions that should be discussed. One of the many that might be cited is the question of what kind of a new society we are striving to found. Kropotkin has eloquently pointed out the necessity of knowing what we are aiming at. At present there are many conflicting theories—the communistic theory of the C. G. T., the industrial state of the I. W. W., the Pouget-Pataud theory of double federation of producing labor unions on one side and the federation of distributing co-operatives, on the other; the theory that the miners will own the mines, the railroaders own the railroads, etc.; the shop organization theory, etc. A thorough discussion of these various theories would do much to clear up the confusion that exists today in the international movement on this important matter.

By all means, let us have the proposed conference. It is to be hoped that the S. L. of N. A. will have one or more delegates present.

WM. Z. FOSTER.

WHY IGNORE TRADE UNION ACTIVITY?

The advocates of one big union, with an overabundance of revolutionary zeal, often lose sight of some stern facts. When they brand present trade unions as the quintessence of narrow-minded, bigoted characteristics, and that in their efforts to secure an amelioration in wages and conditions are often pitted against one another, when they dismiss them as a reactionary body devoid of purpose and aim—which is true to a certain extent—they fail to take cognizance that these petty attributes, these shortcomings are not inherent to unions alone, but form the chief prerogative of the majority of human

beings. They are a product of an ill-developed, servile, steeped-in-prejudice human nature that we have to overcome and contend with whether within the pale of the A. F. of L. or among human societies in general. How can we expect revolutionary consciousness or development from a body of men when its various components lack these essential qualities? It seems folly to entertain such notions.

The trade unions will evolve from their present state of inertia when, instead of holding aloof from them, the conscious and far-seeing revolutionary minority will undertake to lead these workers, now groping in the dark, to a realization of greater and better purpose.

To ignore all trade-union activity and hold it in "revolutionary" contempt solely because it fails to reach our conception of life or recognize our method of struggle, and dismiss it as ultra-reactionary would be just as ludicrous as to attempt to correct the evils of present society, forsaking its many advantages, by emigrating to some remote and secluded hamlet, awaiting the millennium.

Like all toilers, they need enlightenment, revolutionary education, which can only be imparted to them by being in their midst, and while often misunderstood, struggle with them, demonstrate to them not only how to avoid defeat, but how to broaden their scope by a closer affiliation with kindred crafts, and the moral and material benefits accruing from it. Remember that they have always been appealed through their selfishness and credulity, and if we have not lost faith in human nature, we can do much towards arousing a greater feeling of solidarity—it has been done, it must be done; and then, experience and discontent have never failed to contribute bountifully to the advancement of any progressive cause. In other words, their mistakes are only incidental, not fundamental, and from their efforts and achievements we are all—I. W. W.'s, Syndicalists, Socialists, Tolstoians, Single Taxers or Individualists—reaping countless benefits.

If the trade unions in this country only show a slight disposition to struggle according to the rules of the game, it is solely due to the fact that radicals have forsaken them for the discussion of Plato, Nietzsche and Stirner after a six-bit dinner, and corrupt leaders and crafty politicians converted them to a vast arena to draw support for gratification of their political ambition. And, if today they only know how to fight clumsily, let us not withdraw from them the militant minority who can teach them how to fight with dexterity for a definite aim.

"WHY."

A COMPARISON.

The woman suffrage agitation in England has become so intense that the stability of the present ministry is actually in danger. The suffragettes are threatening the most dire and effective revenge upon the government if it don't give them the ballot during the present session of parliament. They say the window-breaking and mail destruction campaigns are but trivial to what is yet to come. And their militant tactics in the past are guarantee that they will make good their threats. Hence the present consternation throughout England. It is generally conceded that if the women don't get the ballot during this session of parliament they will surely get it during the next one.

This whole suffragette agitation is one of the best exhibitions of the power of direct action and the militant minority ever given. A handful of unfranchised, but militant women, by sheer "cussedness" and contempt for law, conventions, property rights, etc., are kicking up such a row that the British government is being forced to surrender to them.

Compare their accomplishments with those of the powerful (sic) Social Democratic party of Germany. For forty years this huge, ultra-legal, respectable and civilized organization (with latent strength enough to overturn German capitalism if it used direct action tactics) has begged, pleaded and voted for the franchise, and apparently it is no nearer its goal now than at the beginning. And it's safe to say that it never will get the franchise until it gives up its characteristic Socialist milksop attitude and anemic tactics, and adopts the defiant attitude and red-blooded tactics of the "unrevolutionary" English suffragettes.

DEFENSE FUNDS.

The capitalist jails are again yawning to receive another batch of militant workers. They can be de-

prived of their prey only by vigorous action by the working class. Funds are urgently needed to finance the trials of Alexander Aldamas and the fellow-workers arrested in the Little Falls strike. Those wishing to contribute will send funds for Aldamas to James Vidal, 229 West street, New York City, and funds for the Little Falls victims to Little Falls Defense Committee, Box 458, Little Falls, N. Y.

THE SILENT BOYCOTT.

Since the Syndicalist League of North America was formed about 8 months ago, one thing that has been very noticeable is the silence of the I. W. W. press regarding it. When one takes into consideration that the men and women who founded this league were almost all members of the I. W. W., one is prone to inquire into the causes of this silence.

Being sure of our position we were willing to discuss Syndicalism even before starting the league. Relying on what we had been taught in the I. W. W. that intelligent discussion helps to bring us to correct conclusions—we expected that the discussion of our proposition would show whether our analysis of what was wrong with the I. W. W. was correct or not. But the Gods (of the I. W. W.) decreed otherwise and the silent boycott was placed upon us.

But these tactics are in accord with those used before. When the Socialist party was organized its arguments were unanswerable. And the capitalist retainers didn't try to answer them; they ignored them. But, finally, the Socialist party forced recognition for itself. Then there developed the I. W. W. movement of the radical elements of the Socialist party, Socialist Labor party, and the craft unions. As soon as the I. W. W. cut loose from the politicians and developed its theory of direct action immediately the Socialists applied to it the boycott of silence that had been used against them. Finally the I. W. W. has overcome this and forced the Socialist party to give up its boycott. The Socialists, who refused so long to discuss the difficult arguments of the I. W. W., are now being forced to consider them. The seeming inability to reach the goal aimed at through the tactics of the I. W. W., coupled with the stubborn refusal of the craft unions to die out, or join the I. W. W., has in turn produced the movement organized into the Syndicalist League of North America. The I. W. W. in ignoring this movement and the hard questions it propounds is but following the usual course of dominant organizations.

It is to be hoped that we will learn from the mistakes of others. Already our movement is fast passing out of the first stage—that of being ignored—and is forcing recognition of itself. Let us therefore be careful in the development of our organization that we don't develop into the dogmatic and bigoted stage that presages an organization's downfall. When new ideas spring up from time to time we must always be ready to discuss them and assimilate those which are beneficial to the revolutionary movement, and will bring us nearer to our goal, the emancipation of the working class.

J. W. JOHNSTONE,
Revelstoke, B. C.

IN THE PURSUIT OF SCIENCE.

In a pamphlet issued by Professor Forster of Berlin against vivisection the author accuses many of our "learned" men of unlimited cruelty in their pursuit of science. To give a few examples:

Professor Von Bergman and Professor Ibahn in Berlin inoculated, with good results, poor patients with cancer serum, in order to see whether it was possible to transfer this incurable disease to healthy persons. The same experiments were made in a hospital in Paris.

Fourteen orphan boys were treated with the poison from leaves, and forty-four recruits with tubercule by Professors Ziemssen, Penzold and Filehne in Wurzburg. Pest experiments have been made by Professor Kolle. In the Rudolf hospital in Vienna a man who had an abscess on his left temple had some fluid injected into the wound. After five days he developed a serious sexual disease. A hospital physician declared that they preferred young subjects, "between the ages of 14 and 18 years." Professor Finger in Vienna inoculated three healthy women with fresh syphilis.

Is this enough? Ought not those scientists to be looked upon as criminals? Or, better yet, be given

a dose of their own medicine? If they have so much love for science, why don't they try it upon themselves? Why must it always be the poor who are experimented upon? Professor Forster claims that entire volumes could be filled with these examples. T. V.

Subs. are the life-blood of a revolutionary paper. Don't overlook hustling a few for THE SYNDICALIST.

THE REVOLT OF LABOR

THE GARMENT WORKERS' STRIKE.

The giant garment workers' strike continues with unabated vigor. The wretched clothing slaves of the East Side are determined to wrest better conditions from their heartless exploiters. Their strike has been so effective that, at present writing, the bosses' association is weakening, and from all indications is going to capitulate.

The strike has been marked by an even greater than ordinary number of sluggings and arrests of peaceful strikers. The injunction has also been used against the workers. Judge Greenbaum, inspired doubtless by capitalist "long green," decided that the workers had no right to picket the struck shops, and issued an injunction to that effect. The workers thought otherwise, and proceeded to violate the injunction en masse, with the natural result that the judge-made law collapsed.

A feature of the strike that augurs well for the growing intelligence of the workers is the substantial support being given by garment workers in various cities. Hitherto it has been an uncontested custom of clothing manufacturers, when their slaves were on strike, to send their work to other cities to have it done. Thus the garment workers in one city broke the strike of their fellow-workers in another. But finally the garment workers have learned their fatal mistake in thus allowing themselves to be made into scabs, and they are determined to put a stop to it. All over the East strong protests are being made against doing the scab work. A national general strike of garment workers may develop. In Rochester 12,000 workers have struck. In Chicago the thousands of clothing slaves are thoroughly aroused at the accusation that New York work is being done in Chicago shops. The only thing at present stopping them from striking is the good prospect for a speedy settlement of the New York strike.

The firemen, trainmen and conductors on the C. & N. W. railroad have voted to form a system federation on this road. The engineers voted against the proposition. They claim that they have more invested in their jobs than any of the other groups of workers, and that they can't afford to be pushed into strikes at the whims of the former. They say that whereas a brakeman or fireman has no difficulty in securing another position at his calling, it is almost impossible for an engineer to do so. Hence they conclude they can't strike, except as a last resort.

The formation of this system federation in the operating department of the C. & N. W. is a healthy sign. Doubtless similar ones will be organized shortly on other roads throughout the country, as the brotherhoods are learning that they are unable individually to combat the organized railroad magnates. The next step will be to federate these system federations in a general federation, just as was done with the shop system federations. Then what more natural than that these two general federations, operating and shop, should federate together. Thus the railroad organizations will be gradually brought together—just as they learn their common interests—until they finally amalgamate into an industrial union.

It is to be deplored that the engineers have not seen fit to join the C. & N. W. system federation. They still foolishly cling to the belief that it pays better to lick their masters' hands than to line up with their fellow workers. But if they get a few more doses of arbitration, like the last one, they will soon learn that the capitalists refuse to pay even their tools, and that the only way for any group of workers to better their condition is by being faithful to the interest of the working class.

The engineers and firemen are on strike on the Bangor & Aroostook Railroad. The conductors are also in a state of ferment and will probably join the movement. Only a few trains are running and these are under heavy guard. Thus, even the aris-

tocrats of labor are learning that they must strike together if they are to win anything.

The B. & A. is a paper-carrying road and the Typographical Union is to be asked to boycott the paper hauled by scab crews. Whether the I. T. U. will rise to the occasion remains to be seen.

As we go to press word arrives that the hotel workers' strike in New York has been declared off. It is to be regretted that this great strike has not resulted in a complete victory. An important cause of this was the indifference or hostility of the A. F. of L. unions toward the strike. This unsympathetic attitude is a natural consequence of the I. W. W.'s (under whose tutelage the strike was conducted) policy of indiscriminate dual unionism. As this policy becomes better known, the trade unions will become more and more hostile toward the I. W. W., and its strikes will become increasingly difficult to win.

Very shortly, in Los Angeles, there will be held a meeting of officials of all the international building trades organizations. The chief purpose of the gathering is to determine what can be done to establish joint agreements with the contractors' associations. Who says the craft unions cannot learn from their experience that individual action by the several unions is no longer effective?

Olaf A. Tviemoe and E. A. Clancy, convicted in the labor dynamiting cases, have been re-elected as officers of the state board by the State Building Trades' Council of California. This action is a credit to the labor movement of the coast. It is a sign that the workers are becoming aware of the hypocrisies of capitalism and of the existence of the class struggle.

The strikeworm has now attacked the priests of the Roman Catholic church in the diocese of Bologna. Their demands have been drafted and forwarded to the archbishop. These include that their material conditions be ameliorated at once or they will fall back on direct action, thus forsaking religious action.

The Chicago Grand Opera chorus, on Sunday, Jan. 19th, did not show up. Their actions plainly stated "The public be damned," we take care of ourselves first. If a little more of this self-interest and dependence was in evidence among organized labor, something would be doing shortly.

A feature of the present labor uprising in New York was the strike of the news writers against the Jewish Socialist daily, "Vorwaerts."

What does the Typographical Union mean by striking against the co-operative commonwealth and forcing it to grant union conditions?

The Connellsville (Pa.) police force has gone on strike. Though unorganized as a union, unity of ideas, forced on them by their conditions, have compelled such action. They are demanding a raise in pay from \$65 to \$70 per month.

"WHY?"

That is the name of a neat little sixteen-page magazine just off the press and comes from the most unexpected place, Tacoma, Washington; a town known mostly to the radical world for its big-mouthed, anarchist-eating, prosecuting attorney, who started in to clean up Home Colony and got himself cleaned out of office.

This little rebel magazinelet is not a question mark when it comes to consider the live issues of the day. We quote an editorial from it elsewhere in this issue to show where it stands on the question of Syndicalism.

No question about the kid question, either. It realizes fully that the place to begin a rebel's education is in the cradle. It has a leading article on "The Montessori System of Education," a subject we hope to speak of in these columns in the near future.

Put the questions to them, comrade. Stamp your "Why?" deep into every one of their institutions. Take nothing because mother hands it down with loving words. Out with your red hot "Why?" and brand it.

We welcome you, fellow-fighter, on the field where the battles of the future are being fought.

A MONUMENT TO LABOR.

Since the days of the Tower of Babel every great work of human hands has demanded a toll of human life. Always a no inconsiderable percentage of the toilers has died by accident or succumbed to physical strain. The story never varies. It is told by the palaces and defenses of Babylon, the Pyramids of Egypt, the Parthenon of Athens and the Coliseum of Rome. It is told today by every skyscraper of every commercial center of every country in Christendom. The worker in stone and iron gives blood as well as labor that monuments of civilization may rise while he drops and dies and is forgotten.

And now, at last, something has happened to convince the multitude that the workers are a part of the monuments of civilization. From one of the concrete pillars of the recently erected power dam across the Mississippi River at Keokuk, Iowa, protrudes a human hand. Beyond that hand lies the body of a laborer who disappeared several weeks ago. His body cannot be moved without destroying an important portion of the dam, and therefore it must lie imbedded in the cement for the many decades or centuries which will pass before the dam yields to the action of the elements.

Never had labor a finer monument. Never was there an object lesson more likely to impress on the world the truth that every great work of even civilization is built with the flesh and blood of the toilers.—San Francisco Bulletin.

THE WORKERS' UNIVERSITY.

Books and Pamphlets For Sale by the Syndicalist Publishing Association.

A Physician in the House, Dr. J. H. Greer.....	\$2.00
Ancient Society, Lewis H. Morgan.....	\$1.50
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Flowers of the Mind, the best poems.....	1.00
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Anarchism and Other Essays, Emma Goldman.....	1.10
Love's Coming of Age, Edward Carpenter.....	1.00
The American Esperanto Book, Arthur Baker.....	1.00
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HENDERSON BAY ROUTE—Steamer Tyconda leaves Commercial Dock, Tacoma, for all points on Henderson Bay, including Home, week days at 2:30 p. m., returning next morning. Sunday at 8 a. m., returning same day.

NORTH BAY ROUTE—Steamer Tyrus leaves Commercial Dock, Tacoma, for all points on North Bay every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 10 a. m., returning next morning.

COMMUNISTIC LIBRARY—Meets every Thursday night from 8 to 10 o'clock; every Sunday morning from 10 to 12 o'clock. Free lessons in English and Esperanto. Books in any language free. 711 Hudson street, Trenton, N. J.

FOR SALE—Cheap—In Home Colony; an acre with four-room house, chicken house, bearing trees; good view. Apply M., Rasnick Home, Lakebay, Wash.

WANTED—Working people for a co-operative colony in Tennessee. Address H. E. Sawdon, Harrison, Tenn.